

# **INTENSIVE FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES**

## **Report on Prevention of Placement Over Varying Periods of Time**

(RCW 74.14C.080)

### **September 2001 Report**

**Department of Social and Health Services  
Division of Program and Policy  
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## **INTENSIVE FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES**

Chapter 311, Laws of 1995, the Family Preservation Bill, directed the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to provide both family preservation and intensive family preservation services to eligible families who were referred to the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) for child protective services (CPS) or family reconciliation services (FRS). Services were also to be made available to children to facilitate their return home from out-of-home care. The services were to be “locally based and offered as early as possible to avoid disruption to the family, out-of-home placement of the child and entry into the dependency system.”

RCW 74.14C.080, contains a reporting requirement, which states the following;

**“The department shall collect data regarding the rates at which intensive family preservation services prevent out-of-home placements over varying periods of time. The department shall make an initial report to the appropriate committees of the legislature of the data, and the proposed rules to implement this section, by December 1, 1995. The department shall present a report to the appropriate committees of the legislature on September 1<sup>st</sup> of each off-numbered year, commencing on September 1, 1997.”**

In addition, RCW 74.14C contains other reporting requirements related to provision of preservation services. The Division of Program and Policy Development contracts with the Office of Children’s Administration Research (OCAR) for the data collection related to these requirements. The reporting requirements in RCW 74.14C.080 have been incorporated into annual reports in February 1999 and 2000.

To accomplish the task of monitoring out-of-home placement rates for children who have been recipients of intensive family preservation services, DCFS, OCAR, and providers developed the Intensive Family Preservation Services (IFPS) Provider Family Termination Summary. This summary is completed at the termination of services and provides both demographic information which can be used to track out-of-home placements in the DCFS automated information systems in a variety of time frames, and service outcome information.

The information collected from these summaries was used to develop and maintain a database on IFPS contractors and families they served. This database is being used for the periodic generation of program reports on client characteristics, service characteristics and outcomes. The client information from this data base was cross-referenced with DCFS placement outcomes based on CAMIS data at selected time frames.

The following data contains information on three sets of families that received preservation services during fiscal year 1997-1998, fiscal year 1998-1999 and fiscal year 1999-2000 with placement rates 6 months post service delivery and 12 months post service delivery.

## **FISCAL YEAR 1997-1998**

<b>DESCRIPTION OF FAMILIES SERVED STATEWIDE</b>
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Intensive Family Preservation Services allocated **872** slots for families between July 1, 1997 and June 30, 1998. Service delivery was completed for **762** families, **634** interventions, **112** IFPS assessments and **16** IFPS aftercare services. The remaining slots were not used or no exit summaries were received from the providers.

This was the first group of families to be impacted by Chapter 240, Laws of 1996 (SSB 6514) which introduced a new level of services for IFPS families. The legislation allowed for 30-40 day intervention or a 90-day intervention in which paraprofessional services are utilized in conjunction with the preservation therapist. Prior to the passage of this legislation the duration of services was only 30-40 days.

IFPS providers submitted termination summaries for **634** families for whom they provided a full intervention. During this time period, a full intervention could be either 30-40 days or 90 days. Within these families, there were **989** children identified as being at imminent risk of placement or in need of reunification services. Again, equal numbers of male and female children were referred and they were spread across all age groups, with the majority being Caucasian. The following is a demographic breakdown of the children identified at intake as being at imminent risk of placement or in need of reunification:

Gender	
Male	52%
Female	48%

Age	
0-4	26%
5-8	22%
9-12	24%
13-17	28%

Ethnicity	
Caucasian	60%
African American	7%
Multi Racial	14%
Native American	5%
Hispanic	8%
Asian	1%
Other	2%

## PLACEMENT OUTCOMES

For purposes of this report, out-of-home placement criteria was defined as follows:

1. Placement begin date was within 180 days of service termination date and the placement lasted for more than 14 days; or
2. Placement begin date was during the intervention and continued post intervention for a total period of more than 14 days; or
3. Placement begin date was before the intervention begin date (for reunification cases) and continued post intervention.

Post intervention placements were reviewed at the following intervals:

- Six Months post service delivery
- Twelve months post service delivery

Of the **989** children identified as being at imminent risk of placement or in need of reunification services, there were 18 % who had at least one placement that met one of the stated criteria within six months post service delivery. An additional 4% met the placement criteria twelve months post service delivery for a total of 22% of the children being placed in out-of-home.

Placement Outcomes	
<b>6 months post service delivery</b> (as of December 31, 1998)	<b>18%</b>
<b>12 months post service delivery</b> (as of June 30, 1999)	<b>4%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>22%</b>

## **FISCAL YEAR 1998-1999**

<b>DESCRIPTION OF FAMILIES SERVED STATEWIDE</b>
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Intensive Family Preservation Services allocated **916** slots for families between July 1, 1998 and June 30, 1999. Service delivery was completed for **771** families, **639** interventions, **112** IFPS assessments and **20** IFPS aftercare services. The remaining slots were not used or no exit summaries were received from the providers.

IFPS providers submitted termination summaries for **639** families for whom they provided a full intervention. During this time period, a full intervention could be either 30-40 days or 90 days. Within these families, there were **1035** children identified as being at imminent risk of placement or in need of reunification services (**1.64** children per family). Again, equal numbers of male and female children were referred and they were spread across all age groups, with the majority being Caucasian. The following is a demographic breakdown of the children identified at intake as being at imminent risk of placement or in need of reunification:

Gender	
Male	54%
Female	47%

Age	
0-4	25%
5-8	21%
9-12	26%
13-17	29%

Ethnicity	
Caucasian	64%
African American	7%
Multi Racial	13%
Native American	5%
Hispanic	9%
Asian	<1%
Other	1%

## PLACEMENT OUTCOMES

For purposes of this report, out-of-home placement criteria was defined as follows:

1. Placement begin date was within 180 days of service termination date and the placement lasted for more than 14 days; or
2. Placement begin date was during the intervention and continued post intervention for a total period of more than 14 days; or
3. Placement begin date was before the intervention begin date (for reunification cases) and continued post intervention.

Post intervention placements were reviewed at the following intervals:

- Six Months post service delivery
- Twelve months post service delivery

Of the **1035** children identified as being at imminent risk of placement or in need of reunification services, there were 14 % percent who had at least one placement that met one of the stated criteria within six months post service delivery. An additional 3% met the placement criteria twelve months post service delivery for a total of 17% of the children being placed in out-of-home.

Placement Outcomes	
<b>6 months post service delivery</b> (as of December 31, 1999)	<b>14%</b>
<b>12 months post service delivery</b> (as of June 30, 2000)	<b>3%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>17%</b>

## **FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000**

<b>DESCRIPTION OF FAMILIES SERVED STATEWIDE</b>
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Intensive Family Preservation Services allocated **699** slots for families between July 1, 1999 and June 30, 2000. Service delivery was completed for **693** families, **577** interventions, **111** IFPS assessments and **12** IFPS aftercare services. The remaining slots were not used or no exit summaries were received from the providers.

IFPS providers submitted termination summaries for **577** families for whom they provided a full intervention. During this time period, a full intervention could be either 30-40 days or 90 days. Within these families, there were **926** children identified as being at imminent risk of placement or in need of reunification services (**1.6** children per family). Again, equal numbers of male and female children were referred and they were spread across all age groups, with the majority being Caucasian. The following is a demographic breakdown of the children identified at intake as being at imminent risk of placement or in need of reunification:

Gender	
Male	52%
Female	48%

Age	
0-4	25%
5-8	23%
9-12	24%
13-17	27%

Ethnicity	
Caucasian	64%
African American	8%
Multi Racial	13%
Native American	7%
Hispanic	6%
Asian	1%
Other	1%

## PLACEMENT OUTCOMES

For purposes of this report, out-of-home placement criteria was defined as follows:

1. Placement begin date was within 180 days of service termination date and the placement lasted for more than 14 days; or
2. Placement begin date was during the intervention and continued post intervention for a total period of more than 14 days; or
3. Placement begin date was before the intervention begin date (for reunification cases) and continued post intervention.

Post intervention placements were reviewed at the following intervals:

- Six Months post service delivery
- Twelve months post service delivery

Of the **926** children identified as being at imminent risk of placement or in need of reunification services, there were 16 % who had at least one placement that met one of the stated criteria within six months post service delivery. An additional 5% met the placement criteria twelve months post service delivery for a total of 21% of the children being placed in out-of-home.

Placement Outcomes	
<b>6 months post service delivery</b> (as of December 31, 2000)	<b>16%</b>
<b>12 months post service delivery</b> (as of June 30, 2001)	<b>5%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>21%</b>